

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the Application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A mammalian culture medium comprising recombinant human albumin and a medium that can support cell development, the culture medium characterized in that: wherein the mammalian culture medium increases the viability of gametes or embryonic cells cultured in the mammalian culture medium, and further wherein the mammalian culture medium is free from non-recombinant human albumin.

(a) the culture medium is free from non-recombinant human albumin; and

(b) the culture medium supports gamete and embryonic cell development.

2. (Original) The culture medium according to claim 1, wherein the medium that can support cell development is selected from the group consisting of G1.2/G2.2, KSOM/KSOMaa, M16, SOF/SOFaa, MTF, P1, HTF, Earle's, Hams F-10, M2, Hepes-G1.2, Whitten's and PBS.

3. (Original) The culture medium according to claim 1, wherein the medium that can support cell development supports embryo development.

4. (Original) The culture medium according to claim 1, wherein the medium that can support cell development supports mammalian stem cell development.

5. (Currently Amended) The culture medium according to claim 1, comprising about 0.5 0.125 mg/ml to about 5.0 11.5 mg/ml recombinant human albumin and further comprising citrate.

6. (Original) The culture medium according to claim 2, further comprising citrate.

7. (Original) The culture medium according to claim 1, comprising about 0.5 mg/ml to about 5.0 mg/ml recombinant human albumin and further comprising fermented hyaluronan.

8. (Original) The culture medium according to claim 2, further comprising fermented hyaluronan.

9. (Original) The culture medium according to claim 3, further comprising citrate.

10. (Original) The culture medium according to claim 4, further comprising citrate.

11. (Original) The culture medium according to claim 3, further comprising fermented hyaluronan.

12. (Original) The culture medium according to claim 4, further comprising fermented hyaluronan.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A mammalian culture medium supplement comprising recombinant human albumin, the supplement characterized in that: wherein the supplement increases the viability of gametes or embryonic cells cultured in a medium containing the supplement, and further wherein the supplement is free from non-recombinant human albumin.

(a) the supplement is free from non-recombinant human albumin; and

(b) the replacement of serum albumin purified from blood by the supplement in a gamete or embryonic cell culture medium containing serum albumin purified from blood provides a supplemented culture medium that provides equivalent or enhanced gamete or embryonic cell development compared to the gamete or embryonic cell culture medium containing the serum albumin purified from blood.

15. (Original) The supplement according to claim 14 further comprising citrate.

16. (Original) The supplement according to claim 15, wherein the citrate is present in a range of about 0.1 mM to about 1.0 mM when added to the medium.

17. (Currently Amended) The supplement according to claim 14, wherein the recombinant human albumin is present in a range of about ~~0.5~~ .0125 mg/ml to about ~~5.0~~ 11.5 mg/ml when added to the medium.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) The culture medium of claim 9, wherein the citrate is present in a range of about 0.1 mM to about 1.0 mM.

22. (New) The culture medium of claim 7, wherein the fermented hyaluronan is present in a range of about 0.1 mg/ml to about 1.0 mg/ml.

23. (New) The culture medium of claim 1, further comprising citrate, wherein the culture medium provides equivalent or enhanced gamete or embryonic cell development compared to the same culture medium wherein serum albumin purified from blood is used instead of recombinant human albumin.

24. (New) The culture medium of claim 1, further comprising citrate, wherein the culture medium supports embryo development up to the blastocyst stage.

25. (New) The culture medium of claim 1, further comprising citrate, wherein the culture medium supports embryo development up to the blastocyst stage of at least 70% of embryos cultured from fertilized eggs.

26. (New) The culture medium of claim 1, further comprising citrate, wherein the culture medium supports embryo development from the blastocyst stage to hatching.

27. (New) The culture medium of claim 1, further comprising fermented hyaluronan, wherein the culture medium provides equivalent or enhanced gamete or embryonic cell

development when compared to the same culture medium wherein serum albumin purified from blood is used instead of recombinant human albumin.

28. (New) The culture medium of claim 1, further comprising fermented hyaluronan, wherein the culture medium supports embryo development up to the blastocyst stage.

29. (New) The culture medium of claim 1, further comprising fermented hyaluronan, wherein the culture medium supports embryo development from the blastocyst stage to hatching.